NOTICE OF FILING AND PUBLICATION

Petition of Bay State Gas Company for approval to participate in a Money Pool Agreement under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 164, § 17A, as amended.

On September 19, 2001, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 17A, Bay State Gas Company ("Bay State" or "Company") and affiliates (collectively, "BSG") filed a petition with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") for approval to participate in the NiSource Inc. System Money Pool ("Money Pool") with BSG..

BSG states that it seeks authorization to participate in the Money Pool in order to aggregate its short-term cash surpluses and invest such surplus funds to achieve a higher interest rate than the typical yield on short-term money market investments or to borrow from the Money Pool at its weighted average short-term debt rate. Further, BSG claims that the proposed Money Pool is intended to replace Bay State's current funds pooling arrangement that the Department originally approved in D.P.U. 96-69 (1996) and amended in D.T.E. 98-31 (1998).

The Department will hold a public and evidentiary hearing on the above- captioned matter on November 6, 2001, at 10:00 a.m. at its offices, One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

Any person who desires to comment may do so at any time by submitting written comments to: Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

Any person who desires to participate in this proceeding must file a written petition for leave to intervene or to participate in the proceeding with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, not later than the close of business (5:00) on November 2, 2001. A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1). Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

All written pleadings or comments also must be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: 1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us and john.geary@state.ma.us or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.T.E. 01–75), (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing, and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document (e.g., Initial Comments or Reply Comments). The electronic filing should also include the name, title and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix), in Microsoft Word, (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix) or as an Adobe PDF file (naming the document with a ".pdf" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. All comments submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's Website, < http://www.magnet.state.ma.us/dpu> .

A copy of BSG's filing will be available for public viewing during regular business hours at the offices of the Company, 300 Friberg Parkway, Westborough, Massachusetts, and at the offices of the Department, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts. Any person desiring further information regarding this notice should contact John Geary, Hearing Officer, at 617-305-3500.

By Order of the Department,
Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary

ORDER OF NOTICE

Petition of Bay State Gas Company for approval to participate in a Money Pool Agreement under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 164, § 17A, as amended.

Bay State Gas Company is required to publish the attached notice in either the Boston Herald or the The Boston Globe and each of the following newspapers: The Springfield Union News, the Brockton Enterprise, the Patriot Ledger, The Sun Chronicle, and the Lawrence Eagle Tribune at least fourteen (14) days prior to November 6, 2001.

Bay State Gas Company is required to serve a copy of its filing on the chairman, board of selectmen, city council and clerks in the municipalities in its service area, and is also required to make return of service and publication at the time of the hearing.